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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please replace the amended abstract provided below for the original abstract:

## Compounds of the formula

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_2 & R_3 \\ R_1 & R_4 \\ (R_5)_d & (R_6)_b \end{bmatrix} \qquad M \qquad z \ A^{\Theta}$$

$$(R_7)_c & (Q)_d & Q$$

wherein M is either (1) a metal ion having a positive charge of +y wherein y is an integer which is at least 2, said metal ion being capable of forming a compound with at least two

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$$\begin{array}{c} R_{2} \\ R_{1} \\ (R_{5})_{d} \\ \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} R_{3} \\ (R_{6})_{b} \\ \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} R_{3} \\ (R_{6})_{b} \\ \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} CA_{d-1} \\ (Q)_{d} \\ \end{array}$$

chromogen moieties, or (2) a metal-containing moiety capable of forming a compound with at least two

chromogen moieties, z is an integer representing the number of

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$$\begin{array}{c|c} R_2 & R_3 \\ \hline (R_5)d & (R_6)b \\ \hline (R_7)c & (Q)d \\ \end{array}$$

chromogen moieties associated with the metal and is at least 2, and  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ,  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$ , a, b, c, d, Y,  $Q_7$ , A, and CA are as defined herein.